



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: 2019 Luma Team Post-Trip Reflections

26th October, the 2019 Luma Overseas Study Tour team gathered to reflect and co-share. After experiencing a new country and engaging with people of diverse cultures, the youths returned conflicted with what lay ahead in their futures. Some shared their considerations of their obligations to follow village traditions. Through discussions, the youths were encouraged to step outside of their traditions and that in doing so would likely bring one closer to one's culture and an understanding of oneself.

The goal of the tour was not only to open youth horizons, but also to heighten their cultural vision and differentiation. In seeing and engaging with other indigenous cultures, they are able to recognize the value of their own. The 2019 Luma team is comprised of thirteen indigenous youths. They participated in the 2019 National UNITY conference in Florida in July, followed by a tour to Chicago, San Francisco and Hawaii. Before their journey, they underwent one year of training conducted by ACF and Vox Nativa Taiwan.



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Changbin-Fengbin Media FAM Trip

27-29 October, coinciding with the annual Chishang Autumn Harvest Music Festival, ACF invited eight journalists from Mainland China and Hong Kong to the Changbin and Fengbin Townships to experience a three-day two-night cultural tour. They visited sites and had the opportunity to converse with indigenous youths from the area who have left and returned, as well as youths who have newly moved to the townships to actualize their life dream. On example is an indigenous youth who returned to look after family, and to learn the family tradition of making sweet rice wine (酒釀) and tobacco rolling (捲菸); another from Taipei who is married to a Changbin native who moved to the area to open a bar fulfilling retirement plans early. The east coast of Taiwan, with places such as Changbin and Fengbin, is an area where barriers are non-existent, and a place that welcomes all to call home.



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: East Coast Swing Festival

2nd November, at the Junyi School of Innovation's Wonderland Performing Arts Center, was when the East Coast Swing Festival took place. Lead trumpet of the festival Guang-Hao Wei who is Assistant Professor of Department of Music at the National Dong Hwa University, invited jazz artists from Japan and across Taiwan to perform at the festival. Performances included the Koichi Yabori Jazz Trio and East Coast Swing Project Quintet which never ceased to entertain and keep the audience engaged. Jazz performances usually don't receive a full audience in Taiwan; the East Coast Swing Festival is one of few. For music aficionados and musicians, with the success of the second-consecutive festival, it demonstrates that the music culture in Taiwan is diversifying.



Junyi School of Innovation: 9th Graders Reenacts the White Terror

Human rights education is a mandatory part of the Junyi curriculum. This year, 9th graders were tasked to write and reenact their depiction of the White Terror period in Taiwan. The play demonstrates understanding of the history in the viewpoint of today's youths. Students combined music, dance and theatrics, and were invited to perform at the Green Island White Terror Memorial Park. Junyi hopes to nurture appreciation and understanding of history, human rights as well as encourage harmony in a society.



Junyi School of Innovation: Chinese Opera Workshop for High Schoolers

11th September, GuoGuang Opera Company conducted a Chinese Opera Workshop at Junyi for 7th, 9th and 12th grade students and teachers. They discussed Chinese opera focusing on roles, skills and even auditioning processes. The group demonstrated the structure of an opera, and examined the four key roles – Sheng (male), Dan (female), Jing (painted face), and Chou (male clown). Students also had the opportunity to engage with the group. The workshop was a rare opportunity for students and teachers to have an in-depth understanding of the age-old performance.

GuoGuang Opera Company's first encounter with Huatung began with an invitation to the Taiwan East Coast Land Arts Festival in 2019. Following the festival, they were invited to perform at Baoting Arts and Cultural Center in Taitung. In this performance, they chose to perform their first-ever performance from their founding in 1995 with the then-lead actor as the coach. Similar to ACF, GuoGuang Opera Company values sharing and passing on knowledge to youths.